

Claim 1 of the present Application is similar to claim 1 of the parent Application, except the removable and support sections are now recited as "being releasably interconnected at least substantially by the liner only." Such a construction provides numerous advantages over the prior art. For example, the use of cured liquid coating liner eliminates the need of liners formed of paper or other substrate layers which increase the thickness of the blank. Furthermore, the inventive construction can also be used to avoid the disadvantages associated with the alternative use of perforations, score lines, or other types of lines of weakness. Such conventional alternative designs are unsightly and often make it difficult for the user to remove the removable section of the blank. It will be appreciated, however, that the principles of the present invention can be used in conjunction with these alternative designs. That is to say, the cured liquid liner can be used with a sheet having defined lines of weakness extending along the die cuts (e.g., a line of weakness may be defined in the thin section of the sheet which remains along the die cut).

The Flaherty et al. '464 patent discloses traditional forms having removable sections which are carried on a liner or defined by perforation or score lines. The form 1 illustrated in FIGS. 1-1D is referred to as prior art. The form 1 includes detachable receipt portions that are removable along perforation lines 5. The form 1 further includes adhesive backed labels 7-15 that are separated by die cuts 20 and carried on a liner 19. Although the liner material is apparently not specifically disclosed, it constitutes a traditional paper or other conventional substrate material that is coated. FIGS. 2 and 5 illustrate the form 50 which is disclosed and claimed in the '464 patent. The form 50 is similar in relevant construction to the traditional form 1. In particular, the form 50 includes detachable receipt sections 52 and 53 that are removable along perforation lines 61. Furthermore, the form 50 includes adhesive backed labels 54-56 which are carried on printable liner 72. The liner 72 is disclosed as being formed of paper.

Thus, the Flaherty et al. '464 patent fails to disclose or suggest the use of the construction recited in claim 1. For example, the '464 patent does not disclose nor suggest the use of a cured liquid liner that serves as the primary (or sole, e.g., see Claim 3) means for retaining the removable section of the sheet to the support section. The remaining references cited in the parent Application are likewise deficient in showing and suggesting the use of the structure recited in claim 1.

Claim 46 of the present application is similar in many respects to currently pending claim 1. The primary distinctions of claim 46 include the following: 1) the top surface is not recited as printable, 2) the support and removable sections are not positively recited, and 2) the sheet is recited as "being held together along the die cut at least substantially by the liner only, whereby splitting of the coating liner along the die cut permits a section of the sheet to be removed." Nonetheless, for reasons similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art references cited in the parent Application fail to show or suggest the use of the structure recited in claim 46.


Claim 29 of the present Application recites a method of forming a blank similar in many respects to the method claim allowed in the parent Application (see claim 29 of the parent Application). The distinctions between the method claims of the present and parent Applications are generally the same as those noted above with respect to claim 46. Thus, Applicant asserts that claim 29 of the present Application is patentable over the prior art references of record.

In view of the foregoing, the present Application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is courteously requested. Should the Examiner have questions, the undersigned may be contacted at (800) 445-3460.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any payment due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

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